

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 SCS-06 /077 W
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P 270824Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 04029

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS : PINT, SHUM, TW
SUBJECT : CH'EN CHU

REF : TAIPEI 4022

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. TAIWAN GARRISON COMMAND (TGC)
ON JUNE 26 ISSUED TWO VERSIONS OF PRESS RELEASE
ON CH'EN CHU. TEXT OF RELEASE TO LOCAL PAPERS WAS
REPORTED REFTEL. TEXT OF RELEASE TO INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATIONS FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. THE TAIPEI CITY POLICE BUREAU, WHEN
MAKING AN UNSCHEDULED ROUTINE CENSUS CHECK ON THE NIGHT
OF JUNE 15, FOUND THAT MANY OF THE OCCUPANTS OF NO. 11,
LANE 7, CH'INGTIEN STREET, HAD NOT MADE THE HOUSEHOLD
REGISTRATION AND FOR THIS REASON THE POLICE, ACCOMPANIED
BY CHIEFS OF LING AND LI (BLOCK WARDENS) MADE A HOUSE-
TO-HOUSE CHECK IN THAT BUILDING. IN THE RESIDENCE OF
MISS CH'EN CHU (AGE 29, BIRTHPLACE: ILAN) THE POLICE
FOUND A LIST OF EX-CONVICTS WHO WERE CHARGED WITH
SEDITIONARY ACTIVITIES, AND ILLEGAL REACTIONARY PAPERS
AND PUBLICATIONS. THE POLICE OFFICERS COUNTED THE
PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS AND BROUGHT THEM BACK TO THE
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POLICE BUREAU. MISS CH'EN GAVE THE POLICE OFFICERS AN
ADDRESS IN CH'ANGAN EAST ROAD AND A TELEPHONE NUMBER AND
PROMISED TO BE AVAILABLE FOR CONTACT AT ANY TIME. BUT
MISS CH'EN DISAPPEARED THE NEXT DAY AND THE POLICE WERE
UNABLE TO CONTACT HER. THE POLICE THEREFORE TURNED OVER
ALL THE ILLEGAL PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS TO THE TAIWAN
GARRISON COMMAND IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.

AFTER ACCEPTING THE CASE, THE TGC INVESTIGATED AND FOUND THAT MISS CH'EN WAS HIDING IN THE RESIDENCE OF FATHER BOCCIERI OF THE LO TS'U CHURCH, PU HSIN HSIANG, CHANGHUA, CENTRAL TAIWAN. FATHER BOCCIERI IS AN AMERICAN (HIS ORIGINAL NATIONALITY WAS SWEDISH, BORN IN 1911 AND ARRIVED IN TAIWAN IN 1962) WHO HAS BEEN IN CHINA FOR MANY YEARS AND CAN SPEAK CHINESE MANDARIN AND THE AMOY DIALECT FLUENTLY. HE WAS SERVED A WRITTEN WARNING BY THE CHANGHUA POLICE BUREAU FOR SUSPICION OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN 1974.

AT 7:00 P.M., JUNE 23, THE TGC, BEARING THE SUBPOENA ISSUED BY THE PROCURATOR AND ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE CHANGHUA POLICE BUREAU AND THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLICE AS WELL AS THE CHIEFS OF LING AND LI, REACHED FATHER BOCCIERI'S PLACE TO INTERROGATE MISS CH'EN CHU. THE FATHER TIGHTLY CLOSED THE GATE OF THE CHURCH, PUT OUT THE LIGHTS AND REFUSED TO OPEN THE DOOR ON THE EXCUSE THAT "HE WAS PERFORMING A MASS." THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLICE ASKED HIM SINCE HE WAS PERFORMING A MASS, WHY DID HE PUT OUT THE LIGHTS. THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICER SHOWED THE SUBPOENA TO FATHER BOCCIERI. KNOWING THAT HE COULD NOT JUSTIFY HIS DEED, FATHER BOCCIERI THEN PROMISED TO LET CH'EN CHU MEET THE TGC OFFICERS, WHO VERY POLITELY AND IN A FRIENDLY

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FASHION REQUESTED MISS CH'EN TO ENTER THEIR CAR AND GO BACK TO TAIPEI WITH THEM TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. MISS CH'EN HAS COOPERATED VERY WELL DURING THE INTERROGATION. THE CASE IS NOW UNDER INVESTIGATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW. END TEXT.

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. REV. BOCCIERI CONTACTED EMBASSY AND GAVE US A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF HIS ACTIVITIES AND THE ARREST OF CH'EN CHU. HIS ACCOUNT WAS BASICALLY THE SAME AS THAT OF THE TGC BUT IT DID NOT CHARACTERIZE THE ARRESTING OFFICER'S BEHAVIOR AS "POLITE AND FRIENDLY" (SEE ALSO TAIPEI 3978). REV. BOCCIERI INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE FEARED HIS INVOLVEMENT IN HIDING CH'EN CHU, COMBINED WITH HIS EARLIER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, MIGHT RESULT IN HIS EXPULSION FROM TAIWAN.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE PUZZLED BY THE OMISSION OF THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN IN THE LOCAL RELEASE AND ITS INCLUSION IN THE INTERNATIONAL VERSION. PERHAPS THE FOREIGN RELEASE IS DESIGNED PRINCIPALLY FOR AMERICAN CONSUMPTION AND IS TO COUNTER AND DISCREDIT THE MORE DAMAGING VERSION THEY EXPECT

REV. BOCCIERI TO SPREAD TO U.S. PRESS.

5. IT APPEARS FROM THE ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED TGC PRESS
RELEASES THAT THE GROG IS TAKING A CALCULATED APPROACH
TO PUBLIC RELATIONS IN THIS CASE. A FURTHER EXAMPLE OF
THIS APPEARS TO BE A STORY ON THE NEED TO SUPPRESS TIM
ACTIVITIES AND DETECT LOCAL SPIES, WHICH DRAMATICALLY
SURROUNDED THE STORY ON CH'EN CHU IN THE CHINA POST.
END CONFIDENTIAL. UNGER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINT, SHUM, TW, (CH'EN CHU)
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b165e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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